



OCT 19 2000

CERTIFIED RECEIPT REQUESTED

Mr. Gordon S. Kuntz, Ph.D.
Senior Environmental Project Manager
Corporate Environmental Services
The Sherwin-Williams Company
101 Prospect Avenue, N.W.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1075

Re: Hilliard's Creek Superfund Site, New Jersey

Dear Mr. Kuntz:

As you are aware, EPA and Sherwin-Williams entered into an Administrative Order on Consent (AOC) for a Removal Action for the above-captioned site. Pursuant to the AOC, the Sherwin-Williams Company's (SWC) contractor, Roy F. Weston, Inc. (Weston), has been taking and analyzing various samples in and around Hilliard's Creek.

The last round of sampling has revealed that the extent of the contamination, and consequently the scope of the necessary Removal Action, is significantly greater than the parties initially expected. I received copies of the June 7, 2000 letters sent from Weston to the owners of the private residences that had been tested along Hilliard's Creek. While EPA had agreed that Weston could share data with the residents, the letter also assured the land-owners that "no further action is required" at their property. As EPA discussed with your company during an August 3, 2000 meeting on the Removal Action along Hilliard's Creek, this type of conclusive statement is both unacceptable and misleading.

I request that you consult with EPA before any correspondence is sent, or representation is made by, or on behalf of, SWC to third parties. Based on the data I have seen, the representation made by Weston, on your behalf, is inaccurate since it is necessary to conduct another phase of sampling on residential properties to further delineate the extent of contamination and assess any potential public health hazards. Such premature statements made on behalf of SWC not only compromises the integrity of your company, but that of EPA as well.

Thank you for your future cooperation.

Sincerely,

Carole Petersen, Chief
New Jersey Remediation Branch

cc: Allen Danzig, Esq., SWC
John Gerulis, SWC
Ted Toscos, Weston
John Doyon, NJDEP

bcc: Emmet Keveney, NJRB
Pat Evangelista, NJRB
Carl Howard, ORC 16th fl.
John Witkowski, MS211
Bonnie Green, MS211